



St. Bonaventure Catholic Community *Comunidad Católica de San Buenaventura*

5562 Clayton Road, Concord, CA 94521 • PHONE (925) 672-5800 • FAX (925) 672-4606 • www.stbonaventure.net

**F
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Sunday of

Advent

They shall beat their swords
into plowshares and their
spears into pruning hooks;
one nation shall not raise
the sword against another.

Isaiah 2:4



First Sunday of Advent
Primer Domingo de Adviento

December 1, 2019

MASSES IN ENGLISH/EN INGLES

Saturday Vigil/Sábado: 5:00PM

Sunday/Domingo: 7:30AM, 9:00AM, 11:00AM, 5:00PM

MISA EN ESPAÑOL/ IN SPANISH

Domingo: 12:45PM

DAILY MASS/MISA DIARIA (CHAPEL/CAPILLA)

Monday/Lunes thru Friday/Viernes: 9:00AM

Saturday/Sábado: 8:00AM

Wednesday / Miércoles: 6:30AM

Liturgy of the Word/Liturgia de la Palabra

Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/Friday: 6:30AM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION/ADORACION AL SANTISIMO

In English: Monday thru Thursday- Holy Hour
after 9AM Mass

In English: Friday after the 9AM Mass with closing prayer
at 3:15PM

BAPTISM/BAUTIZOS

In English: Call the office to begin the process. This requires
two months preparation.

*En Español: Llame a la oficina para solicitar información y
concertar una cita con el Sacerdote. Este proceso requiere
mínimo dos meses de preparación.*

MARRIAGE/MATRIMONIO

In English: Call the office to arrange with a Priest or
Deacon. This requires six months preparation.

*En Español: Llame a la oficina para solicitar información y
concertar una cita con el Sacerdote. Este proceso requiere
mínimo seis meses de preparación.*

RECONCILIATION /RECONCILIACIÓN

In English: Saturdays 3:30PM (in the church) or by
appointment.

*En Español: Llame a la oficina para hacer una cita con el
Sacerdote.*

CONFESIONES Y ADORACION AL SANTISIMO / CONFESSIONS AND EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

En Español: Martes: 7:00-8:00PM (en la capilla)

In English: Tuesday: 7:00-8:00PM (in the chapel)

Mission

As disciples at St. Bonaventure, we are committed to know Christ better and make him better known. To this end we are committed to...

Keep connected to our parish community,

Nurture the development of our faith and knowledge of Christ,

Offer to share the Holy Spirit's gifts of time, talent, and treasure,

Worship through prayer, Mass and the Sacraments.

“Stay awake! Be prepared! The Son of Man will come when you least expect.”

— (Matthew 24:37-44)

J.S. Paluch Co. Inc.

THOUGHTS FROM ANTHONY ARTEAGA
Director of Liturgy & Music



**ADVENT:
A Season of Expectant Joy**

As we begin another new liturgical year with the Season of Advent this weekend, we are once again reminded of the joyful expectation to which we are all called as members of the Body of Christ, the Church.

The *Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar* contain what is perhaps the most clear and concise description of Advent. The document explains that “Advent has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ’s Second Coming at the end of time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight.” During Advent, we are reminded of the coming of Christ not only at Christmas, but also of His Second Coming at the end of time. Advent should not be primarily understood as a season of penance in preparation for the final judgment upon Christ’s return. Rather, it should be seen as a festive commemoration of the incarnation. It is by our focus on the incarnation that we arrive at a sincere and joyous expectation of the Second Coming of Christ.

Liturgically, the Church has continually promoted the experience of keeping vigil, whether it be through the Vigil Mass anticipating Sunday on Saturday night, the Vigil for

the deceased in the Funeral Rites, or the most important vigil, the Easter Vigil. One way to think of Advent is as one long vigil in preparation for Christmas. This makes it similar to Lent, which is probably not a coincidence. Although the origins of when the Advent liturgical season first began are not completely clear, it can be gathered that throughout the first millennium of Christianity, Advent was like a later Lent as it was not yet the beginning of the Church year (this would not happen until the ninth century; in the early middle ages, December 24th was the start of the liturgical year). Both contained five Sundays, as seen in various historical liturgical books, both were marked by fasting and penance, and both contained a special “day off,” so to speak, halfway through. In the tenth century, however, Advent was officially shortened to four Sundays and, as time continued to pass, focus was taken off of the fasting and penitential aspects of the season. The understanding became to be that preparing for Christmas should not be primarily marked by being anxious about sin, but rather by being filled with a growing sense of anticipatory joy. It is for this reason that we have Gaudete Sunday during Advent, on which we literally “rejoice” that we are halfway to expecting the birth of Christ. This celebration mirrors Laetare Sunday, which is seen as a day of some relaxation from the fasting, penance, and liturgical simplicity of Lent.

Marking time is essential to our human ways. We ritualize the beginning of the New Year, the change of seasons, holidays, birthdays, anniversaries, etc. The liturgical year is no different. Knowing what time of year it is allows us to live more fully our Christian calling to pattern our lives on the Paschal Mystery of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

Christmas Flower Offerings

Many people each year comment on the beauty of the Church and Chapel environments during the Christmas season. This effort can be realized only through the generous donations of our parishioners. You can honor a loved one, either living or deceased, with a gift to our Christmas Flower Fund. You may use either the envelopes found at the exits of the church, or you may fill out the information below, cut it out, and send it (or bring it) to the office. It is a wonderful way to remember someone special.



Amount

Donor Name/Address/Phone No.

Given in Name of

FAITH DIRECT: Parish eGiving



Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: CA725
Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

@St. Bonaventure Catholic Community



PARISH COMMUNITY

Monthly Luncheon



Ho Ho Ho. Merry Christmas

Here's a great opportunity to wear your Santa Hat and your favorite Christmas sweater at our December luncheon on Thursday, December 12th, starting at 11:30 AM in the Large Hall. The menu will feature Roasted Boneless Pork Tenderloin with Citrus Port Sherry Sauce, Sweet Potato Casserole, Green Beans and a Mixed Green Salad, all prepared by Chef Greg. The cost is \$15 per person which includes the lunch, dessert and beverages. All reservations with payment must be received no later than 4 PM on Monday, December 9, either in advance at the parish office during regular business hours or immediately following the 5 PM Mass on Saturday, December 7, and all the morning Masses on Sunday, December 8. Payment can be made in cash or check (preferred) with checks made payable to St Bonaventure Church. Please mark "Monthly Luncheon" on the memo line of your check. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Clayton Valley Counseling

For over 20 years, licensed Catholic therapists at St. Bonaventure have continued to serve individuals, couples, and families, and have prepared engaged couples for marriage. Please call 925-210-6176.

Pregnant? Need Help?

 1-800-910-0191,
The Gabriel Project



FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

God's blessings to these children who have become Children of God in the Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms-October 2019

Livingston, Logan Christopher, son of Christopher and Elizabeth Livingston

Lobo, Isabelle Eira, daughter of Praveen and Paloma Lobo

Lopez, Kinslee Aurora, daughter of Noah Lopez and Maria Elena Viera

Mc Call, Reagan Mae, daughter of Garrett and Amanda Mc Call

Mc Call, Maddox Matthew, son of Matthew and Jill Mc Call

Mc Call, Michael James, son of Matthew and Jill Mc Call

McGhee, Amara Helena, daughter of Dameon and Evelyn McGhee

Mizuno, Kalani Elarose, daughter of Kevin and Katrina Mizuno

Neisch, Eli Jason, son of Jason and Gabrielle Neisch

O'Connor, Ariel Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas O'Connor and Jessica Bicknell

Padilla, Lilliana Ray, daughter of Anthony Padilla and Natasha Ortiz

Padilla, Olivea Allisandra, daughter of Anthony Padilla and Natasha Ortiz

Vasquez, Camila Marie, daughter of Mario and Priscilla Vasquez

LITURGY AND MUSIC

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1

Sunday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Surviving the Holidays While Grieving

Healing the Heart is offering a one-evening Grief Workshop on December 3rd, at 7:30 pm, Classroom B1, focusing on "Holiday Survival." All holidays and celebrations can be stressful and it is harder when it seems like everyone around is in the holiday mood! We will meet to share experiences and some things that people find helpful. Feel free to bring a friend — just let us know if you are coming, because we want to be sure to have enough cookies! Call Helene at (925) 681-8105.

Women's Christian Fellowship Retreat

Are you looking for a Christmas gift for that special lady in your life? Perhaps your wife, mother, daughter, sister or friend would enjoy a relaxing weekend get-away? Then consider giving her the gift of a retreat in the beautiful Santa Cruz mountains!

WCF will host its 26th annual retreat January 31-February 2 at St. Clare's Retreat Center in Soquel, CA. Theme of the retreat is "Be Still and Know that

Funeral Announcements

Dates and times for upcoming parish funerals can be found on our parish web site.

stbonaventure.net/upcoming-funerals

SANCTUARY LIGHT IS LIT FOR

TEDDY RODRIGUEZ
Nov. 30—Dec. 6

JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR

**WORLD PEACE
PEOPLE
SUFFERING FROM
DEPRESSION**

ADULT FAITH FORMATION
(con't.)

I Am God." Father Richard Mangini will direct our contemplative prayer experiences and help draw us closer to the God living within us.

Registration forms are available at the parish office, in the church foyer, and on the St. Bonaventure website. For more information, please call Andrea at (925) 529-7675 or Joy at (925) 673-7025.

Sexual Assault & Abuse Survivors Group

You are not alone! Come join other survivors and share whatever feels comfortable in a group setting. We focus especially on the spiritual journey of healing from sexual abuse. Our meetings reflect the power of God's healing grace.

We usually meet on the first Thursday of each month. Our next meeting will be Thursday, December 5 at 7pm in the front Rectory meeting room. All survivors, family, and friends are welcome. Come and see where the Spirit leads us. Please contact Gina Cattalini at gcattalini@stbonaventure.net or 672-5800 x2217 for questions or more information.

Respect Life Rosary

Please join us for a Respect Life Rosary on the second Sunday of each month after the 9:00 Mass in the Chapel. Next rosary Sunday, December 8. Sponsored by the Respect Life Ministry.

Walk for Life: Save the Date

Join fellow Catholics and Pro Lifers from all over California and beyond, as we stand up for the littlest among us at the 16th Annual Walk for Life West Coast, in San Francisco on January 25, 2020.

Buses will be leaving from St. Bonaventure parking lot. Let's show awesome support for this wonderful Pro-Life event! More details to follow.

Marriage Encounter

Want to give each other a gift filled with romance and excitement? That's just the beginning of what you will receive on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Marriage Encounter Weekends include: **Feb 21-23, and Jul. 10-12, 2020 in Danville, CA.** For more information and/or to register for a Weekend, visit our website at:

oaklandwwme.org or contact Chuck & Annie at applications@oaklandwwme.org or 925-849-5466.

Women in Prayer

Are you interested in praying with other women for your own needs or the needs of others? Join the Women's Christian Fellowship on the second Thursday of each month in the chapel at 7:15pm. Next gathering is December 12th. Come as you are.

OUTSIDE OF PARISH**Advent Taizé**

Sing. Pray. Listen. Beathe.



Sunday, Dec. 1; Monday, Dec. 9, 16 & 23 -7PM

Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church, 1578 Kirker Pass Road, Clayton


Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK
Saturday, November 30

8:00 Fr. Mathew Vellankal

5:00 Fr. Mathew Vellankal

Sunday, December 1

7:30 Art & Edna Cravanas

Fr. Joseph Parekkatt

Elizabeth Pickard

Grace Ang

9:00 Margaret & Raymond Mangini

Angie Pace & Bob Krutilla

Marilyn Callaghan

Louise Stellato

11:00 Jacob Arevalo

Ramon Syquia

Ruby & Leonardo Valencia

Griselda Casillas Fontes

12:45 Maria Guadalupe Ponce

5:00 Zenaida Mariano

Go Family

Rodolfo Jeturan

Lourdes Martinez

Monday, December 2

9:00 Fr. Mathew Vellankal

Fr. Dominic Jala

Tuesday, December 3

9:00 William Pace

Jack Smario

Clara D'Costa

Wednesday, December 4

6:30 St. Bonaventure Community

9:00 Fr. Joseph Parekkatt

Fr. Dominic Jala

Thursday, December 5

9:00 Tu Truong

Andres Caguntas

Martha Sardelich

Friday, December 6

9:00 Rudy Mercader

Rita McCabe

Ken Serpanchy

Martha Sardelich

Saturday, December 7

8:00 St. Bonaventure Community

5:00 Muriel Claeys

Tu Truong

Bill Hopkins

Guy Worth





Advent Traditions

The Advent Wreath

One of the most popular symbols used by Christians to prepare for Christmas is the Advent wreath. The wreath's symbolism of the advent (coming) of Light into the world is clear.



The gradual lighting of the four candles, one on each Sunday of the Advent season, combined with the liturgical colors of the candles (purple is the penitential color used during Advent and Lent; rose is a liturgical color used only on Gaudete Sunday in Advent and Laetare Sunday in Lent) help to symbolize not only our expectation and hope in Our Savior's first coming into the world, but also in his Second Coming as Judge at the end of the world.

The wreath itself is also symbolic. The circle of evergreen in which the candles are placed represents everlasting life. The seedpods, nuts and cones used to decorate the wreath are symbolic of resurrection, and fruits represent the nourishing fruitfulness of the Christian life.

Since Advent is a time to stir up our faith in the Lord, the wreath provides a way for us to enhance this special preparation for Christmas. Moreover, this tradition helps us to remain vigilant in our homes and not lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas.

The Crèche

St. Francis of Assisi is credited with creating the first nativity scene in 1223 at Greccio, Italy in an attempt to place the emphasis of Christmas upon the worship of Christ rather than upon secular materialism and gift-giving. Staged in a cave,



St. Francis' nativity scene was a living one with humans and animals cast in the Biblical roles. Such pantomimes became hugely popular and spread throughout Christendom. Within a hundred years every church in Italy was expected to have a nativity scene at Christmastime. Eventually, statues replaced human and animal participants, and static scenes grew to elaborate affairs with richly robed figurines placed in intricate landscape settings.

The scene is typically composed of figurines depicting the infant Jesus resting in a manger, Mary, and Joseph. Other figures in the scene may include angels, shepherds, and various animals such as a donkey and an ox. The ox traditionally represents patience, the nation of Israel, and Old Testament sacrificial worship while the donkey represents humility, readiness to serve, and the Gentiles.

Traditionally, all figures are added to the crèche except for the infant Jesus; He should be added after midnight on Christmas Eve.

Nativity scenes usually remain on display until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on January 12, the official end of the Christmas season.



Mealtime Prayers

During Advent

As we prepare for the coming of your Son, O God, we are hungry and thirsty for signs of his love in our lives. We give you thanks for this season of waiting and hopefulness for Jesus to be even more present in the life of our family. We give you thanks for this food and drink, signs of your gracious love. May this meal strengthen us to love each other and our neighbors as we patiently wait for the coming of your Son. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Before Christmas Dinner

Leader: Lord Jesus, in the peace of this season our spirits are joyful: With the beasts and angels, the shepherds and stars, with Mary and Joseph we sing God's praise. By your coming may the hungry be filled with good things, and may our table and home be blessed.

Together: Bless us O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty through Christ our Lord. Amen.



ADVENT REFLECTIONS

DECEMBER 1, FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. O house of Jacob come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!” Is 2:1-5

The promise of peace

How precious are these words from the Prophet Isaiah. We begin the season of Advent in joyful hope in a world in sore need of it. Swords will not be raised among the nations, no more training for war. Are we ready as individuals and as a nation to do our part so that this peace comes about? Let us walk in the light of the Lord!

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

“...his glory will be shelter and protection: shade from the parching heat of day, refuge and cover from storm and rain.” Is 4:2-6

A sure refuge for all

Who doesn't want protection from the elements? In this passage, the reference is more than the elements of Mother Nature. We need protection from what burns inside of us that destroys all that is good. We need a sure refuge from the storms in our lives, the tempests that can toss us about. Only looking to the Messiah can we hope to be protected.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3 SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER

“...for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike.” Lk 10: 21-24

The childlike are the chosen ones

The mysteries of the kingdom of God are revealed to the disciples, the childlike. In their lack of education, they are blessed with discovering that Jesus and the Father are one. It may take a while, but they will absorb this amazing truth, because with Jesus and the kingdom there is no room for arrogance and pride. Can we reflect on this and learn from it?

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4 SAINT JOHN DAMASCENE

The crowds were amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the deformed made whole, the lame walking, and the blind able to see...” Mt 15: 29-37

Miracles abound

What must Jesus have felt when his gaze took in the suffering sea of humanity as he sat down on the mountain. As he suffered then, so he is suffering today. The daily news brings into our homes the inhumane conditions of countless people. Is there no end to this

suffering? Jesus can work miracles only through us. With every good action to fight for justice, for the rights of everyone, we can bring about a better world. Are we up to the fight?

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

“Open up the gates to let in a nation that is just, one that keeps faith.” Is 26: 1-6

A somber reflection

“A nation that is just, one that keeps faith.” There is plenty of food for thought in this passage. Are we, as a nation, being faithful to our ideals or is it that we give more importance to building up an arsenal of war instead of directing the resources to feed our hungry, provide a solid education for our children and youth, and to allow the elderly to enjoy the fruit of their labors? What of those who are suffering at our borders, their only fault being to want a life free of violence? Are we a just nation, or is there room for improvement?

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 SAINT NICHOLAS, BISHOP

“But a very little while, and Lebanon shall be changed into an orchard, and the orchard be regarded as a forest!” Is 29: 17-24

God's plan of redemption will be seen in things unheard of.

Orchards and forests. The cedars of Lebanon will turn into an orchard. This is a taste of what the Messiah to be born will accomplish in life. Things unheard of. The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the lame will walk. The same wonders the Messiah worked for the people of his time, he can do for us. Do we believe this? Are we willing to give him the chance to do things unheard of for us?

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 SAINT AMBROSE, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

“At the sight of the crowds, his heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned.” Mt 9: 35-10: 1, 5a, 6-8

A sign of our times?

Jesus did all that he could possibly do to bring people to the love of the Father, and “curing every disease and illness.” The people looked like “sheep without a shepherd.” In the times we live in, it seems that we, too, are like sheep without a shepherd. All we have to do is to listen to the news, read the newspaper, and just see with our own eyes how many people are desolate. Jesus isn't here physically to help us, but he has us. Just as he commissioned the twelve to proclaim that all isn't lost, so must we do the same. In this Advent, are we up to the challenge to bring hope to a broken nation and a broken world?

BE PREPARED



Christmas Concerts

The Resurrection Choir, Friends, and Orchestra will be holding their Annual Christmas Concert in the church on **Saturday, December 7th at 7:30 PM.**



VINTAGE is holding their 16th Annual Christmas Concert in the church on **Saturday, December 14 at 7:30 PM.** There will be a "free will offering" and all of the proceeds will once again be used to buy presents for the children that come to the Food Pantry with their parents.



Reconciliation Service

Advent is not considered a penitential season but rather a period of "devout and expectant delight." Celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation should be part of our preparation for the season of the Incarnation. We participate in this sacrament because we are confident that God is merciful. We have this confidence because, in every age, God has shown us his justice and his mercy.

Communal Reconciliation Service in English at St. Bonaventure

Tuesday, December 10th at 7:00 PM

Other Events

On the Road to Bethlehem Pancake Breakfast: Saturday, December 7th @ 9:00am

Experience the magic and wonder of Christmas as we prepare for the birth of Jesus! There will be crafts and activities for children and a special visit from Santa. St. Bonaventure's Knights of Columbus will prepare breakfast. **The cost is \$7 per person.** Tickets are available in the Church office. Deadline for ticket sales is **Wednesday, December 4th.** Contact Eileen Limberg if you have any questions at 672-5800, Ext. 2204. E-mail: elimberg@stbonaventure.net.

Heavenly Harmony Choir Bake Sale

Our Heavenly Harmony Children's Choir will be holding a Bake Sale before and after Masses on December 14th and 15th. All proceeds will benefit the choir.

Las Posadas: Friday, December 13th @ 7:00pm

Las Posadas is a beautiful tradition faithfully passed on from one generation to the next in Hispanic families. This devotion is a reenactment of the journey of Mary and Joseph asking for lodging in Bethlehem. Several times Joseph asks for shelter for his family and several times he is refused, until the owner of a stable recognizes the couple as holy pilgrims and bearers of salvation, and lets them in.

The children of the Spanish Faith Formation classes on Sunday morning will tell the story. Traditional Spanish carols will be sung. This will take place on **Friday, December 13 at 7:00pm** in the Church.

Christmas Flower Offerings

Many people each year comment on the beauty of the Church and Chapel environment during the Christmas season. This effort can only be realized through the generous donations of our parishioners. You can honor a loved one, either living or deceased, with a gift to our Christmas Flower Fund. You may either use the envelopes found at the exits of the church, or you may fill out the information found in the bulletin, cut it out, and send it (or bring it) to the office. It is a wonderful way to remember someone special.



Special Liturgies

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception:

Monday, December 9th @ 9:00am

This year, due to the Second Sunday of Advent taking liturgical precedence, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday, December 9th. However, the obligation to attend Mass does not transfer.

Therefore, the Immaculate Conception is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation this year. However, since the Mary of the Immaculate Conception is the Patroness of the United States, we will still honor our Blessed Mother with one special Mass at 9:00am in the church.



Our Lady of Guadalupe: Thursday, December 12th

Behind the miraculous appearance and icon that define Our Lady of Guadalupe is a story of persistence and courage. Our Lady helped Juan Diego make his point through her miracles. This story reminds us to trust and makes clear the certainty that, when God calls us to proclaim his kingdom, we are surrounded by the grace we need to see our mission through. Our celebration begins with **Mañanitas at 5:00 AM** featuring mariachi music and a rosary. That evening, we will celebrate a **Solemn Mass at 7:00 PM**. We hope that you can join us for this day of festivities!



Simbang Gabi: December 15th-23rd @ 7:30pm



It was one of Fr Mat's wishes to unite all the Filipino Community in our Parish by celebrating "Simbang Gabi"

in St. Bonaventure. This is a Filipino tradition celebrating the 9 days before Christmas. It is also known as "Misa de Aguinaldo," meaning the "Mass for the coming of the Gift." It was also his desire for the St Bonaventure Community to experience the richness of this tradition. In honor of Fr Mat, this year, we will bring "The Spirit of Simbang Gabi" into our Parish. We invite everyone to please come and celebrate with us every night at 7:30pm from December 15th to 23rd. As part of this tradition, we will have a simple get-together after Mass and partake of Filipino native treats.



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve: Tuesday, December 24th

3:00 PM Early Childhood Christmas Pageant & Mass

5:30 PM Elementary Children's Christmas Pageant & Mass

8:00 PM Christmas Vigil Mass

(Our Sunday 11AM Quartet will present a Christmas Choral Prelude beginning at 7:30pm)

11:00 PM Christmas Mass at Night
(Our Sunday 9AM Choir will begin Christmas Prelude Music at 10:30pm)



Christmas Day: Wednesday, December 25th

8:00 AM Christmas Day Mass (English)

10:00 AM Christmas Day Mass (English)

12:45 PM Christmas Day Mass (Spanish)



New Year's Day/The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God: Wednesday, January 1st, 2020

We celebrate the motherhood of Mary as well as the start of a new calendar year. The title "Mother of God" is a western derivation from the Greek *Theotokos*, which means "God-bearer." On this day, we are reminded of the role that the Blessed Virgin played in the plan of our salvation. **We will have Mass at 10:00am in English and 12:45pm in Spanish in the church.**



“Velen, pues, y estén preparados para la venida del Hijo del hombre.”

—(Mateo 24:37-44)

J.S. Paluch Co. Inc.

PENSAMIENTOS DE ANTHONY ARTEAGA

Director de Liturgia y Música



ADVIENTO: UNA TEMPORADA DE EXPECTANTE ALEGRÍA

Al comenzar este fin de semana otro nuevo año litúrgico con la Temporada de Adviento, una vez más se nos recuerda la alegre expectativa a la que todos estamos llamados como miembros del Cuerpo de Cristo, la Iglesia.

Las Normas Universales sobre el Año Litúrgico y el Calendario Romano General contienen lo que es quizás la descripción más clara y concisa del Adviento. El documento explica que "el Adviento tiene un doble carácter, ya que es un tiempo de preparación para las solemnidades de la Navidad, en el que se recuerda la Primera Venida del Hijo de Dios a la humanidad, y también un momento en que, al recordar esto, las mentes y los corazones son guiados a esperar la segunda venida de Cristo al final de los tiempos. Por estas dos razones, el Adviento es un período de devoción y expectante deleite". Durante el Adviento, se nos recuerda la venida de Cristo no solo en Navidad, sino también de su segunda venida al final de los tiempos. El Adviento no debe entenderse principalmente como una temporada de penitencia en preparación para el juicio final sobre el regreso de Cristo. Más bien, debería verse como una conmemoración festiva de la encarnación. Es por nuestro enfoque en la encarnación que llegamos a una expectativa sincera y gozosa de la Segunda Venida de Cristo.

Litúrgicamente, la Iglesia ha promovido continuamente la experiencia de mantener la vigilia, ya sea a través de la Misa de vigilia que anticipa el domingo por la noche, la Vigilia

por los difuntos en los Ritos funerarios, o la vigilia más importante, la Vigilia de Pascua. Una forma de pensar en el Adviento es como una larga vigilia en preparación para la Navidad. Esto lo hace similar a la Cuaresma, que probablemente no sea una coincidencia. Aunque los orígenes de cuando comenzó la temporada litúrgica de Adviento no están completamente claros, se puede deducir que durante el primer milenio del cristianismo, Adviento fue como una Cuaresma posterior, ya que aún no era el comienzo del año de la Iglesia (esto no sucedería) hasta el siglo IX; a principios de la Edad Media, el 24 de diciembre fue el comienzo del año litúrgico). Ambos contenían cinco domingos, como se ve en varias liturgias históricas, ambos estaban marcados por el ayuno y la penitencia, y ambos contenían un "día libre" especial, por así decirlo, a mitad de camino. Sin embargo, en el siglo X, Adviento se acortó oficialmente a cuatro domingos y, a medida que pasaba el tiempo, se quitó el foco de los aspectos de ayuno y penitenciales de la temporada. Se entendió que la preparación para la Navidad no debería estar marcada principalmente por la ansiedad por el pecado, sino por estar lleno de una creciente sensación de alegría anticipada. Es por esta razón que tenemos el domingo de Gozo durante el Adviento, en el cual literalmente nos "alegramos" de que estamos a medio camino de esperar el nacimiento de Cristo. Esta celebración refleja el Cuarto domingo de Cuaresma, que se ve como un día de relajación del ayuno, la penitencia y la simplicidad litúrgica de la Cuaresma.

Tomar tiempo es esencial para nuestras formas humanas. El comienzo del Año Nuevo, el cambio de estaciones, días festivos, cumpleaños, aniversarios, etc. El año litúrgico no es diferente. Saber en qué época del año nos permite vivir más plenamente nuestro llamado Cristiano para modelar nuestras vidas en el misterio pascual de la vida, muerte y resurrección de Jesús.



HORARIO DE OFICINA
Padre Oscar Rojas
Teléfono (925) 844-9015

Cerrado para almuerzo de 12:30-1:30pm
Lunes a Jueves: 8:30 a.m. - 5:30pm
Viernes: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Bautizos 2020

Lugar del Bautizo: Iglesia

Lugar de la clase: B-1

Encargado de la Clase: Gregorio Menchaca

(925) 826-5102

***Para información sobre clases,

favor contactar la oficina***

Fecha de Bautizo	Hora de Bautizo	Fecha de Clase	Hora de Clase
Sat 01/11	10:00 a.m.	Fri 01/10	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 02/15	10:00 a.m.	Fri 02/07	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 03/14	10:00 a.m.	Fri 02/28	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 03/21	12:00 p.m.	Fri 03/06	7-9:30 p.m.

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(6th through 12th Grade)
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Rosary in Remembrance of Sandy Hook

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

On December 14, 2012, 20 children between 6 and 7 years old, and 6 adult staff members, were shot and killed at Sandy Hook Elementary school. That year, my youngest daughter was a kindergartner at Highlands Elementary here in Concord. It resonated strongly with me, as I watched on the news in disbelief and learned that a young man with mental illness had acquired semi-automatic weapons and fired ten rounds of ammunition into a classroom of first grade students, only a year older than my baby.

Now my girls are in high school and middle school. They have been through yearly "active shooter drills" and multiple rallies on being inclusive and against bullying at school. They come home from the drills with high anxiety and questions. I keep praying that we find solutions to this issue. Whatever we think the solution should be, let us not forget the young children who died at Sandy Hook, and the many other children who have been killed by guns at school. Let us honor their lives together and pray for their families who still suffer the loss of their children.

Let us join together on Saturday, December 14, 2019, at 4:30 p.m. in the St. Bonaventure Church (before Mass) to pray the rosary dedicated to the children of Sandy Hook.

Sandra Nepacena (Sponsored with the Social Justice Ministry)

Save the Date!!! An Event That Will Change Your Life
Wednesday, January 15th | 7:00PM – 9:30PM
REBOOT!

With internationally renowned speaker and author, CHRIS STEFANICK. Live! is fun, inspiring and practical. Chris will show you how the beauty and genius of the heart of the Gospel applies to every aspect of your life.

From prayer and spirituality, to work, dating, marriage, parenting, health and more! There is no part of your life that will be left untouched! More details at www.stbonaventure.net/reboot To register, go online to www.RealLifeCatholic.com/reboot – or – Contact Jacob or Anthony at 925-672-5800

Do Not Miss the opportunity to gain insight into living life more fully! The life God has created for you!

Giving Tree “Sort Night”

You are invited to help sort gifts on **Sunday, December 8th** after the 5 o’clock mass in the Church. We will take all the gifts and organize them by the numbers on the ornaments. It is truly a beautiful sight to behold the *huge* stack of gifts and the festive atmosphere as parishioners bustle about

organizing presents in the Church. Each gift sparkles with the love that God has for all of us, as we celebrate the greatest gift of all, the birth of Jesus! All are welcome to join us.

What to Do When You Don’t Know What to Do

A Prophetic Spirituality Brainstorming Session

Join with the participants of *The Time Is Now* book study and the Social Justice Ministry for a brainstorming and discussion session. A pre-read of the book is not necessary—just a desire to be a light in the world. We will break into groups and explore how we can support each other in discerning God’s call to action, get involved in local advocacy, and/or become engaged with our Social Justice Ministry. Two Sessions (one in the evening and one in the morning):

Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 7pm OR Tuesday, Dec. 10, at 10 am.

Classrooms A2/A3. All are welcome – bring a friend. For more information, contact Gina Cattalini at gcattalini@stbonaventure.net / (925) 672-5800 x2217.

Contact Christa Fairfield at 925-844-9005 or email cfairfield@stbonaventure.net



SHARE YOUR TALENTS!
Volunteer in a Ministry